



Shari

RUSSELL

Shari is a mixed media artist and sculptor.

Born in Washington State, USA. She and her husband moved to England to work and travel in 1988 and decided to explore Down Under in 1992.

Shari took art classes at university but got her degrees in Education and English. Shari taught primary school in Adelaide until 1998 when she left to have her first child. Shari credits staying home to raise her two young children as the impetus for beginning for her serious dedication to art. She took a mosaic class just to get out of the house... and has never looked back!

Her love for children and their innocence has had a major influence in her whimsical and naïve style of sculpture and mosaic work. She now is a part-time teacher for adult international students. They have also influenced a more folk and cultural perspective. Shari continues to take art classes and workshops and sometimes teaches them herself.

Education

Art training at Western Washington University, TAFE and WEA.

Awards

Pottery First Place: Campbelltown City Council and Rotary Club 2022.

Pottery Merit Award: Campbelltown City Council and Rotary Club 2021.

1 of 3 finalists for The People's Choice Award for sculpture, Cibo Galleria 2010.

"My friends often joke that they would like to visit the inside of my head. I think they believe the thoughts contained in there would be rather wild and exciting. I don't know about that, but I did grow up before the internet, so I became a master of daydream entertainment."

"Two adjectives that are often used to describe my work are quirky and whimsical. I feel art has rescued me many times throughout my life. Not always through sculpting, sometimes through writing and music. Dancer, Twyla Tharp, once said, "Art is the only way to run away without leaving home." Everyone needs to escape sometimes, especially after a pandemic lockdown. Art opens that door."